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Message Text

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63
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04

INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01 SCI-06 CEQ-02 TRSE-00

DLOS-06 DRC-01 /263 W
---------- 123277
P 170052Z OCT 73
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0262

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3984

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UN, PFOR, PBOR
SUBJ: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE: PARTICIPANTS

1. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER AMERASINGHE'S DRAFT LOS CONFERENCE RESOLUTION (SEE USUN 3804), WHEN IT APPEARS AS A FIRST COMMITTEE DOCUMENT, WILL ON THE ISSUE OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION CONTINUE TO TAKE ITS CURRENT FORM OF A PARA INVITING "STATES MEMBERS" TO PARTICIPATE AND A FOLLOWING PARA, FOR THE TIME BEING LEFT IN BLANK, COVERING "ADDITIONAL STATES" WHOSE PARTICIPATION IS TO BE EXPRESSLY DECIDED BY THE CURRENT GA. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, IT SHOULD BE ASSUMED THE TEXT WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED IN THIS REGARD AND THAT VARIOUS PROPOSALS WILL BE MADE AS TO WHAT ENTITIES SHOULD BE THUS INVITED.

2. AMERASINGHE HAD ORIGINALLY PROPOSED SEPARATING OUT "ADDITIONAL STATES" QUESTIONS FROM LOS ISSUES; HE THUS SUGGESTED THAT THE FIRST COMMITTEE ADDRESS THE CONFIDENTIAL

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LATTER, WHILE LEAVING THE FORMER FOR SUBSEQUENT

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CONSULTATIONS AMONG GA MEMBERS AND RESULTANT GA DECISION.
WE NOW KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT, AS REPORTED YESTERDAY, THE
EC-9 ARE PRESSING TO HAVE THE "ADDITIONAL STATES"
QUESTIONS RESOLVED BEFORE THE CONFERENCE RESOLUTION IS
REPORTED OUT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE. IT MAY ALSO BE
THAT THE USSR, WHOSE CONDUCT WITH REGARD TO THE 1974
CONFERENCE SEEMS FOR THE MOMENT ENIGMATIC, WILL FOR
ENTIRELY SEPARATE REASONS ALSO OPT TO RESOLVE THIS
MATTER IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE. IN ANY EVENT IT IS CLEAR
THAT WE MAY NEED TO DEAL WITH THIS RANGE OF QUESTIONS
DURING THE CURRENT FIRST COMMITTEE DEBATE ON THE SEABEDS
ITEM, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS THE END OF THE CURRENT WEEK.

3. WE NEED TO ANTICIPATE THAT (A) AFRICANS WILL URGE
THAT INVITATIONS BE EXTENDED TO GUINEA (B) AND THE
OTHER NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE OAU
INCLUDNDING NAMIBIAN SWAPO,
(B) THAT ALGERIA AND OTHERS WILL PROPOSE THE PRG,
AND (C) THAT A NON-ALIGNED GROUP WILL PROPOSE THE DRV.
CONCEIVABLY WE MIGHT HAVE TO FACE A PROPOSAL TO
INVITE "PALESTINE", ALTHOUGH THIS DOES NOT NOW SEEM
LIKELY. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF
THESE ISSUES WOULD FROM US AND FRIENDLY VIEWPOINTS BE
PROPERLY TREATED AS CREDENTIALS ISSUES AND LEFT FOR THE
CONFERENCE TO DECIDE AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION IN NOV/DEC,
CAUTION REQUIRES ANTICIPATING THAT VOTES ON THE
"ADDITIONAL" PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ENTERTAINED AND
HELD AT THIS JUNCTURE. ON THE OTHER HAND, A PROPOSAL TO
INVITE THE GRUNK APPEARS UNLIKELY TO EMERGE SINCE,
FROM THE CHINESE POINT OF VIEW, SUCH AN INVITATION
WOULD CONSTITUTE A "TWO-CAMBODIA POLICY".

4. WE HAVE DONE A VOTE-COUNT WITH REGARD TO THE PRG
QUESTION BECAUSE OF ITS SPECIAL IMPORTANCE AND CLOSE
RELATION TO SUCH OTHER MATTERS CURRENTLY BEFORE THE
GA SUCH AS THE NEW HOSTILE CAMBODIAN ITEM AND THE
KOREAN ITEM. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT "THE PRG" IS
PROPOSED, A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE IS THAT THE
PROPOSAL WOULD BE DEFEATED 42 IN FAVOR, 57 (US)
AGA
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NST AND 35 ABSTENTIONS. THIS COUNT IS BASED ON THE
ASSUMPTION US POSITION ON ANOTHER ISSUE DOES NOT
AFFECT THIS VOTE; I.E., THAT THE ARABS DO NOT TRANSLATE
THEIR ANGER AT US POSITIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST INTO AN
ACTIVE CAMPAIGN TO INVITE THE PRG. IF THE LATTER SHOULD
OCCUR, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT TEN ESTIMATED ARAB ABSTENTIONS
MIGHT MOVE TO YES. THIS WOULD CHANGE THE ESTIMATE TO
52 IN FAVOR, 57 AGAINST WITH 22 ABSTENTIONS.

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